

**SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING  
JANUARY 21, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.  
FORT SMITH COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204  
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS**

Judge David Hudson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Shawn Looper led the Invocation.

Sharon Brooks, County Clerk called the roll, with all 13 members present.

Phil Hicks	Danny Aldridge	Linda Murry	Johnny Hobbs
Shawn Looper	Jim Medley	Dickie Robertson	
Tony Crockett	Ray Stewart	Rhonda Royal	
John Spradlin	Bob Schwartz	Donald Carter	

Legal Counsel was represented by the Prosecuting Attorney, Daniel Shue.

Judge David Hudson asked if there were any comments from the Public. There were no Public Comments.

The First Item on the Agenda was to approve the Minutes for December 9, 2013, December 17, 2013, and January 6, 2014.

Bob Schwartz made a motion to approve the Minutes. The motion passed unanimously by a Voice Vote.

Judge Hudson presented the Executive Report:

I. 2014 Budget

The focus of the meeting tonight is to review the financial balances for the County Budget to support capital expenditures and to cash flow the County General Fund, based upon adjustments made in April of 2013.

As you know, much of the budgetary focus is on the County General Fund. If you turn in your Quorum Court Meeting packet to page 44, you will see mid-way in the middle of the page to the right, 88.39% is the amount of 2013 Budget expended. You will recall that cash flow projections for the General Fund completed last April projected spending at 94%.

The 1/1/2014 General Fund balance is \$7,401,556. If you turn in your Quorum Court Meeting packet to page 4, you will see an actual cash flow for the County General Fund for 2013. At the far left corner, you will see in the first column, the beginning balance in 2013 at \$5,941,050 and at the bottom of the far right column, the year-end balance of \$7,401,556.

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You will see in the middle of the spreadsheet, the reductions that were made in April of 2013 and adjustments to the General Fund budget totaling \$731,520. These adjustments and reducing the unobligated balance, increasing the General Fund balance, withholding capital expenditures and transferring certain salaries from the General Fund to other funds helped produce a higher balance at the end of 2013.

The 2014 Budget may be amended to allow capital expenditures based upon the actual year-end balance in the General Fund.

On page 5 of the Quorum Court packet, you will find a 2014 projected General Fund cash flow.

On page 5 of the packet, you will see the beginning balance for 2014 of \$7,401,556, less budgetary allowances, grants and an unobligated balance of \$150,000 for an allowance for up to \$651,146 of capital appropriations, resulting in a cash flow balance of \$6,142,805. You will notice in the spreadsheet that this results in a projected year-end balance for the General Fund in 2014 of \$5,937,964.

Please note that capital proposals for 2014 have been reduced by \$62,345. You have a separate document entitled "2014 Capital Budget Proposals" dated January 21, 2014 and in Section 3 of that document, you will see a recap of the proposed capital by fund. You will notice that the General Fund proposed capital is \$588,801, which is \$62,345 less than the capital that was submitted as a part of the proposed 2014 Budget. Reductions have been made in Courthouse Maintenance by \$58,000, \$4,000 from the Jail Maintenance Budget and \$345 from the Elections Budget, all totaling \$62,345.

## **II. 2014 Capital Budget Proposals**

A separate 2014 Capital Budget Proposals Report has been prepared that presents the data processing equipment replacement plan and other computer proposals in Section I, contains a copy of the fleet replacement plans in Section II, lists a summary of all the capital proposals by fund in Section III, contains a recap of all capital on pages 18-23, and in Section V, lists each of the capital justification forms submitted by the offices and officials to explain and justify the capital proposals. These capital justification forms are in the separate document starting on page 24 and running through page 75. As we review the capital proposals, I will be referring the Quorum Court to the capital justification forms in this document. Each of the Elected Officials and Department Heads are here to present their capital proposals and answer any questions you have.

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Ben Geren Golf Course capital is listed on pages 51-52. It is recommended that those appropriations be tabled until after evaluation of Golf Course Proposals later this year.

One capital proposal that has not been compiled at this time is a plan to develop a revised meeting platform for the Fort Smith Courthouse that would involve removing the current bench and constructing a u-shaped or v-shaped platform and table for the Quorum Court meetings in the Fort Smith Courthouse. A plan and cost for this project will be presented to the Quorum Court in a later meeting.

The other capital item listed on the Agenda for consideration is the equipment and procedures necessary to produce the Quorum Court packets in digital form, which will be presented by the IT staff later in the meeting.

Judge Hudson asked Scott Stubblefield to give a briefing on the Sale of Surplus Property. Mr. Stubblefield stated the only items they got rid of since the last report were two Ford Crown Victoria's, and an old Military Surplus Generator. He also stated that there are still a few items to be auctioned, and that if something does not bring a good price they don't have to let it go, as long as there is a reserve set. The auction is ongoing. "We have a bus that we are having difficulty getting rid of. We may have to have it scrapped and get more than what someone would buy it for, because it's in very bad mechanical repair. The Sheriff can give you more information on that."

Leslie Harris, County Director of Technology Services addressed the Quorum Court on the Computer Equipment. "In 2010 we implemented this Computer Replacement Plan for a couple of reasons: 1. To help with the budgeting of the Computer Equipment to prevent a burden to individual departments and the General Fund. 2. To be more proactive in replacing the equipment instead of waiting until it became an emergency." "We opted to go with a 5 year Replacement Plan and it has worked for us. 2014 is the fifth year of the plan, so later this year we have a couple of big projects we are trying to wrap up that might impact our equipment and how we determine what we need. One of them is the software project. The other one is the Circuit Upgrades to all of our locations." She also stated that they have tried to average 55 PCs and 30 printers every year.

John Spradlin asked, what is done with the old equipment? "Leslie Harris replied, it is being auctioned. "We pulled out the harddrives because of security reasons."

Judge Hudson asked Sheriff Hollenbeck to address the Quorum Court on the Courthouse Security.

Sheriff Hollenbeck stated that he would like to have a Taser System to control the prisoners, rather than cuffs and shackles, in order that there would be no chance that the jury would be influenced.

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Sheriff Hollenbeck asked for 6 new vehicles for his department, due to the high mileage. He stated that the van being used to transport prisoners all over the state has over 300,000 miles and to him this is a safety issue.

Sheriff Hollenbeck also stated that he would like his department to have hand held radios for security reasons, under the Federal Forfeiture.

Shawn Looper asked Judge Hudson for the projected completion date for this project. Judge Hudson responded that the last phase will be completed in the summer of 2014.

Shawn Looper made a motion to put the Capital on the February Agenda, including the two additional cars that Sheriff Hollenbeck requested for a total of eight vehicles and to approve all the Capital, except for the Golf Course, the Tractor and the Flex Wing Mower for Ben Geren Park.

Linda Murry seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Next Item: Review Equipment and Procedures for Digital Quorum Court Packets

Kevin Smith and Leslie Harris addressed the Quorum Court, and stated that the cost of providing the Quorum Court Members with Packets in 2013 was about \$10,000, including Software. They suggested that buying Ipad's would save the County money. Each device costs around \$400.00. They demonstrated the way an Ipad works and passed it around to all the Quorum Court Members for Visual Contact.

Phil Hicks asked for an updated, itemized list regarding the Software Project, to see where the County is on New Contracts, and see how much is being spent. Judge Hudson stated that a report from the IT Department will be on the next meeting's Agenda.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve funding for the Ipad's and put it on the Appropriation Ordinance for February.

Rhonda Royal seconded the motion.

The motion passed by a voice vote with one opposing the motion (John Spradlin).

Judge David Hudson asked Sharon Brooks, County Clerk to read an Appropriation Ordinance Amending Budget Ordinance 2013-22 in order to appropriate additional funds and approve additional expenditures for County Offices and Departments in the 2014 Budget, and for other purposes.

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Bob Schwartz made a motion to approve the Appropriation Ordinance.

Sharon Brooks called the roll.

Appropriation Ordinance 2014-1 passed unanimously.

Shawn Looper brought up an article published by City Wire, stating that Mr. Kent LeMasters, President and CEO of Amusement Aquatics Management Group wrote an email that mentioned that the Aquatics Park could be built for \$6-8 million, instead of the \$10 million proposed earlier.

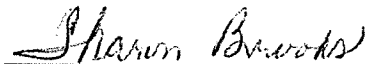
The Judge said that the construction cost was to be determined from sealed bids.


Bob Schwartz made a motion to adjourn meeting.

Tony Crocket seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Sharon Brooks, County Clerk

  
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Marcela White, Deputy Clerk